United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott Eastern District of California

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SACRAMENTO MAN INDICTED FOR CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that a federal grand jury returned a two-count indictment charging DANIEL ARAM ZABLOCKI, 33, of Sacramento, with possessing and producing child pornography.

This case is the product of a joint investigation by the Sacramento office of the FBI and the detectives from the Sacramento Valley High Tech Crimes Task Force.

The investigation in this case was undertaken as part of Project Safe Childhood (PSC). PSC is a United States Department of Justice initiative established to increase federal prosecutions of violent sexual predators of children and to reduce the number of Internet crimes against children including child pornography trafficking. As a part of PSC, the United States Attorney's Office has teamed with state and local agencies and organizations to increase law enforcement presence on the Internet, and to educate the public about safe Internet use, thereby reducing the risk that children might fall prey to online sexual predators. For additional information on the PSC initiative, please go to www.projectsafechildhood.gov or call the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of California and ask to speak with the PSC coordinator.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Laurel D. White, who is prosecuting the case, the indictment alleges that earlier this month, ZABLOCKI possessed at least four computer hard drives that contained visual depictions of minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct. The

government also alleges that between March 15, 2006 and June 3rd of this year, ZABLOCKI knowingly employed, used, persuaded, induced enticed and coerced a minor, identified in the indictment as Minor 1, to engage in sexual activity for the purpose of producing visual depictions of such conduct.

The maximum statutory penalty for possessing child pornography is 10 years in prison. The maximum statutory penalty for producing child pornography is 30 years in prison. The government, however, has alleged that ZABLOCKI has a prior 1998 conviction out of Sacramento County for violating California Penal Code Section 288(a), lewd or lascivious acts with a minor. In light of the prior conviction, ZABLOCKI faces a much higher sentence if convicted of the pending federal charges. The actual sentence, however, will be dictated by the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, which take into account a number of factors, and will be imposed at the discretion of the court.

The charges are only allegations and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

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